AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for processing network management data received by a network management system during network ~~the~~ monitoring ~~of a network~~, said ~~the~~ method comprising:

receiving network management data, and

determining in real-time if said ~~the~~ network management data indicates a ~~the~~ resolution of a previous event generated by said ~~the~~ network management system in response to previously received network management data,

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event;

automatically changing said ~~a~~ severity indicator of said previous event dependent on said determining step, and

then automatically removing said previous event from a memory of said ~~the~~ network management system, depending on said severity indicator.

2. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein, if said ~~the~~ network management data indicates said ~~the~~ resolution of a previous event, said ~~the~~ method further comprises marking said ~~the~~ previous event as resolved.

3. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said ~~the~~ network management data is processed in response to said ~~the~~ network management system receiving

network management data from said ~~the~~ network.

4.   (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, said ~~the~~ network management data comprising values of a monitored characteristic of a part of said ~~the~~ network for which an event is generated if said ~~the~~ monitored value exceeds a predetermined threshold, wherein ~~an~~ said event list includes an unresolved previous event for said ~~the~~ monitored characteristic, wherein said ~~the~~ step of receiving network management data comprises receiving a value for said ~~the~~ monitored characteristic, and said ~~the~~ step of determining comprises considering whether said ~~the~~ monitored value has been below said ~~the~~ predetermined threshold for a preceding time period, and if so determining that said ~~the~~ received value indicates said ~~the~~ resolution of said ~~the~~ unresolved previous event.

5.   (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein said ~~the~~ step of considering comprises, in response to receiving said ~~the~~ network management data, comparing a first received value for said ~~the~~ monitored characteristic with said ~~the~~ predefined threshold, and if the value is below said ~~the~~ predefined threshold, starting a timer, said ~~the~~ timer expiring at said ~~the~~ end a predefined time period.

6.   (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein said ~~the~~ step of considering further comprises comparing each subsequent received value for said ~~the~~ monitored characteristic with said ~~the~~ predefined threshold, and if any value exceeds said ~~the~~ threshold canceling said ~~the~~ timer.

7.   (currently amended)   A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein, when said ~~the~~ timer expires, determining that said ~~the~~ monitored value has been below said ~~the~~ predetermined threshold for said ~~the~~ preceding time period.

8.   (currently amended)   A method for processing data representing a monitored characteristic of a part of a ~~the~~ network in a network management system, said ~~the~~ method comprising:

periodically receiving a value for said ~~the~~ monitored characteristic; if a received value exceeds a predetermined threshold for said ~~the~~ monitored characteristic generating an event; and thereafter,

periodically considering whether said ~~the~~ monitored value has been below said ~~the~~ predetermined threshold for a preceding time period, and if so

determining in real-time that said ~~the~~ event is resolved

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event;

and

automatically changing said ~~a~~ severity indicator of said generated event, wherein said ~~the~~ severity indicator establishes whether said ~~the~~ said event should be automatically removed from a memory of said ~~the~~ network management system.

9.   (original)   A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said ~~the~~ preceding time period is an immediately preceding predetermined time period, and said ~~the~~ step of periodically considering comprises considering whether said ~~the~~ monitored value has been below said ~~the~~ predetermined threshold for said ~~the~~ immediately preceding time period in response to each subsequently received value.

10. (original) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein if said ~~the~~ step of considering determines that said ~~the~~ event is resolved, said ~~the~~ method further comprises marking said ~~the~~ event as resolved.

11. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, said ~~the~~ network management data relating to an asynchronous Trap being received by said ~~the~~ network management system, wherein said ~~the~~ step of determining comprises considering if said ~~the~~ Trap indicates said ~~the~~ possible resolution of an event in an event log.

12. (currently amended) A method as claimed in claim 11, wherein if said ~~the~~ Trap indicates said ~~the~~ possible resolution of an event in an event log, said ~~the~~ step of determining further comprises considering whether said ~~the~~ event log includes a previously received event that is resolved by said ~~the~~ Trap.

13. (cancelled without prejudice) A method for processing data received in an asynchronous Trap by a network management system, the method comprising:

receiving a Trap from the network;

automatically determining if the received Trap is a reportable condition, and if so

considering if the Trap indicates the possible resolution of a event in an event log, and if so

further considering in real-time if the Trap indicates the possible resolution of a further event in the event log.

14.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the method processes network management data previously received by the network management system and stored in the memory.

15.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the step of receiving network management data comprises receiving event data relating to an event stored in memory, in response to a scan of previously generated events stored and included in an event log.

16.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 15, wherein the event data relates to a recurring event and includes the time of the last occurrence of the event.

17.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the step of determining comprises comparing the present time with the time of the last occurrence of the event, and, if the time difference is greater than a predetermined time interval, determining that the event is resolved.

18.   (cancelled without prejudice) A method as claimed in claim 17, wherein if the step of determining determines that the event is resolved, the method further comprises marking the recurring event as resolved.

19.   (currently amended)   A method for processing event data generated by a network management system during the monitoring of a network, said ~~the~~ method processing event data

relating to events previously generated by <u>said</u> ~~the~~ network management system a plurality of times and which may be entered in ~~the~~ <u>an</u> event log as a recurring event, <u>said</u> ~~the~~ method comprising

<u>maintaining said event log, said event log comprising a plurality of severity indicators;</u>

determining in real-time if an event has already been logged a predetermined number of times in <u>said</u> ~~an~~ event <u>log</u> ~~list~~, and if so

automatically identifying <u>said</u> ~~the~~ event; and

considering whether the condition which caused <u>said</u> ~~the~~ event to be generated has occurred in a preceding time period.

20.   (currently amended)   A method as claimed in claim 19, wherein, if <u>said</u> ~~the~~ step of considering determines that <u>said</u> ~~the~~ condition which caused <u>said</u> ~~the~~ event to be generated has not occurred in the preceding time period, determining <u>said</u> ~~the~~ event to be resolved.

21.   (currently amended)   A method as claimed in claim 20, further comprising marking <u>said</u> ~~the~~ event in <u>said</u> ~~the~~ event list as resolved.

22.   (currently amended)   A computer readable medium including a computer program for processing network management data received by a network management system during the monitoring of a network; the program comprising

a program step for receiving network management data and for determining in real-time if <u>said</u> ~~the~~ network management data indicates <u>a</u> ~~the~~ resolution of a previous event generated by the network management system in response to previously received network management data,

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event;

automatically changing said a severity indicator of said previous event dependent on said determining step,

and then automatically removing said previous event from a memory of the network management system, depending on said severity indicator.

23.   (currently amended) A network management system for processing network management data received during a the monitoring of a network, said the system comprising:

a processor for receiving network management data and determining in real-time if said the network management data indicates a the resolution of a previous event generated by said the network management system in response to previously received network management data,

maintaining an event list, said event list comprising a severity indicator of said previous event;

automatically changing said a severity indicator of said previous event dependent on said determining step, and then

automatically removing said previous event from a memory of the network management system, depending on said severity indicator.

24.   (currently amended) A network management system as claimed in claim 23, wherein said the memory is configured to store data relating to events generated by said the network management system, wherein if said the processor determines that received network management data indicates said the resolution of a previous event stored in said the memory,

said ~~the~~ processor updates said ~~the~~ memory to mark said ~~the~~ previous event as resolved.

25.   (previously amended) A network management system as claimed in claim 24,

further comprising means for presenting an event list of generated events to a user.